

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 01148 020831Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 ACDA-07 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00
STR-04 /101 W
-----020940 108273 /23-12

P R 020505Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7408
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMCONSUL DAHRAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR ETRD KU
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PAGE 02 KUWAIT 01148 020831Z

SUBJECT: REPRESENTATION ON ARAB BOYCOTT

REF: (A) STATE 043693, (B) STATE 043697, (C) STATE 043716,
(D) KUWAIT 0927.

1. AMBASSADOR, ACCCOMPANIED BY E/C SECTION CHIEF, CONVEYED
POINTS CONTAINED PARA 1 REF A MARCH ONE TO AMBASSADOR

MUSTAFA ABDUL-SAMAD, DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN MINISTRY'S POLITICAL DEPARTMENT (IN ABSENCE OF UNDERSECRETARY RASHID AL-RASHID, WHO DEPARTED SAME DAY FOR RIYADH). AMBASSADOR PROVIDED COPY OF SECRETARY'S STATEMENT (REF B), AND LEFT AIDE-MEMOIRE ON BOYCOTT BASED ON REF A. AT END OF PRESENTATION HE NOTED HE HAD DISCUSSED BOYCOTT IN TWO RECENT MEETINGS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SABAH AL-AHMAD, AND ASKED THAT AIDE-MEMOIRE AND SECRETARY'S STATEMENT BE BROUGHT TO MINISTER'S ATTENTION.

2. ABDUL-SAMAD EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR DETAILED EXPLANATION OF US POSITION. HE NOTED THAT BOYCOTT IS "VERY SENSITIVE" SUBJECT FOR KUWAIT BECAUSE IT TOUCHES ON STATE OF WAR WITH ISRAEL AND SOVEREIGNTY OF STATES. BOYCOTT, ABDUL-SAMAD EMPHASIZED, WAS NOT INTENDED TO INTERFERE WITH FRIENDLY RELATIONS EXISTING BETWEEN US AND KUWAIT. ALSO, ABDUL-SAMAD SAID, IT HAD TO BE UNDERSTOOD THAT IN APPLYING BOYCOTT, KUWAIT WAS SIMPLY APPLYING COMMON POLICY ADOPTED BY ARAB STATES. QUESTIONS ABOUT BOYCOTT POLICY OR DETAILS HAD TO BE RESOLVED BY ARAB STATES AS A GROUP, NOT BY INDIVIDUAL ARAB STATES.

3. "SPEAKING PERSONALLY" ABDUL-SAMAD SAID HE FELT AMBASSADOR'S PRESENTATION ON BOYCOTT HAD DEALT MORE WITH POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS CAUSED BY BOYCOTT'S ALLEGED INTERFERENCE IN US INTERNAL AFFAIRS THAN ON IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUING AND DEVELOPING TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. AMBASSADOR REPLIED THAT THIS WAS TRUE, PRECISELY BECAUSE OF THE OBSTACLES BOYCOTT REQUIREMENTS RAISED FOR THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 KUWAIT 01148 020831Z

SMOOTH AND EXPANDED DEVELOPMENT OF THESE TRADE RELATIONS.

4. ABDUL-SAMAD APPRECIATED EXPLANATION OF ADVANTAGES OF POSITIVE AS COMPARED TO NEGATIVE CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN. NOTING THAT HE WAS UNFAMILIAR WITH SUCH DETAILS, HE SAID THAT THESE MATTERS WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO SPECIALIZED DEPARTMENTS WITHIN GOK AND AMONG ARAB GROUP AS WHOLE FOR STUDY. AMBASSADOR MENTIONED THAT HE HAD ALSO PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BOYCOTT QUESTIONS WITH MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (WHOSE MINISTRY INCLUDES KUWAIT BOYCOTT OFFICE) AND WOULD ALSO SEND COPY OF AIDE MEMOIRE AND THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT TO THAT MINISTER.

5. COMMENT: TWO WEEKS AGO FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD ME KUWAIT WOULD ACCEPT POSITIVE CERTIFICATION IF SAUDI ARABIA DID (REF D). PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS REF C, I MADE NO REFERENCE TO SAUDI ACCEPTANCE OF POSITIVE CERTIFICATION IN DISCUSSION WITH ABDUL-SAMAD, ALTHOUGH THIS WOULD HAVE GIVEN MAJOR IMPACT TO MY DEMARCHE, SINCE MORNING

ARABIC PRESS HAD CARRIED NO REPORT OF SECRETARY'S STATEMENT. PRESUMABLY, MENTION OF SAUDI ACTION IN SECRETARY'S STATEMENT WILL BE NOTED IF IT IS READ IN ITS ENTIRETY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, BOYCOTTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703102/aaaadluq.tel
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